

HONORING "SALADO LEGENDS" FOR THEIR THIRD SEASON OF BRINGING THE STORY OF CENTRAL TEXAS PIONEERS TO THE STAGE

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 1995

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, today it is with great pride and pleasure that I honor the 1995 presentation of "Salado Legends." This stage drama brings to life the story of central Texas pioneers who braved danger and hardship to carve out a new life.

For the past three summers more than 100 cast and crew have donated their time and talent to bring this production to appreciative audiences. This unique stage production reenacts the experiences of Scottish settlers who arrived in Salado in Bell County in the late 1850's. The audience is treated to a slice of central Texas history through song, dance, and story.

I ask Members to join me in honoring the cast and crew of this stage production for their work preserving a piece of history in my Texas congressional district.

IN TRIBUTE TO EDWARD ROBERTS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 1995

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true American pioneer, a hero to millions, a leader in the truest sense of the word: Edward V. Roberts. Ed Roberts was known and loved by millions throughout the world, for, by the sheer force of his will, intelligence, and genius, he created the independent living movement for people with disabilities.

Born in 1939, Ed was stricken with polio at the age of 14. Left a quadriplegic by the disease, Ed soon found that the world did not recognize that though his body had been ravaged, his mind had not. Confronted with the fact that his high school would not let him graduate because he could not complete mandatory driver's and physical education classes, Ed began his career in tenacious advocacy by convincing his principal to lift that restriction.

In 1962, he became the first severely disabled student to attend the University of California at Berkeley, overcoming opposition to the idea of a student who required a respirator during the day and an iron lung at night. He was physically separated from other students by the school, which housed him at Cowell hospital. Not being content with being a trailblazer for the admission of disabled students, he led a successful fight to allow them to use regular student housing.

After receiving a bachelor's and master's degree in political science, and after teaching at UC-Berkeley for 6 years, Ed left the school to establish the Center for Independent Living. The center's goal was to carry out much of what Ed had spent his life battling alone: helping to find and promote housing, transportation, and assistance for the disabled. His work caught the eye of Governor Jerry Brown, who appointed him the head of the State De-

partment of Rehabilitation. He held the position until 1982. During his tenure, Ed was tireless in promoting the rights of the disabled, and working to ensure that independent living was not merely a goal, but a need for the severely disabled.

In 1984, in recognition of his work, Ed received a \$225,000 MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Award. Using the grant, he, Judy Heumann, and Joan Leon established the World Institute on Disability, which has become the most influential policy and research center on people with disabilities. Indeed, the World Institute and Ed played a key role in helping passage of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act.

Most recently, Ed and the World Institute have been profiled in a three-part series on people with disabilities and technology called "People in Motion." In addition, Ed has been working on a project to create work stations for people with disabilities that would allow them to own their own small businesses, such as espresso or vending carts. It was my privilege to work with Ed on this project with regard to the San Francisco International Airport.

Unfortunately, the world lost Ed Roberts on March 14, 1995. On Sunday, March 19th, a memorial service was held to honor Ed Roberts at the UC-Berkeley campus. I, along with countless others, was proud to call Ed Roberts my friend. He has been called, with little hyperbole, the "Ghandi of the disability rights movement." Comparisons, however, do not do justice to the spirit, the passion, which filled the soul of Ed Roberts. Perhaps Ed defined it best: after overhearing a doctor telling his mother that it would be better if he died from the polio because he would be left a vegetable, Ed immediately thought of the artichoke, which was prickly on the outside with a tender heart.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congress, allow me to express our condolences to his son, Lee, his mother, Vona, and brothers Mark and Ron. But, more importantly, we must continue our fight as a Nation for the rights of the disabled. It is only through our actions that we properly pay tribute to Ed Roberts' enduring legacy of good works and his tireless pursuit of justice on behalf of the disabled.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE AND RESCISSIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. RONALD D. COLEMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1158) making emergency supplemental appropriations for additional disaster assistance and making rescissions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1995, and for other purposes:

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the rescissions contained in H.R. 1158. I oppose this measure for several reasons, primarily because of the detrimental effect it will have on our children.

No one suffers under this bill more than our children. They have been targeted to carry the

bulk of the cuts to pay for the tax cuts for our Nation's most affluent.

We are not cutting bureaucrats. We are denying children who have no control over their circumstances an opportunity to learn in safe, clean schools with a nutritious meal in their stomachs. We are denying children in low income families a warm bed.

This measure will have a negative impact on my home State and my district. For my colleagues, I would like to point out a number of programs vital to the productivity and welfare of Texans which will be slashed or eliminated by this bill.

Under this bill, Texas will lose over \$1 billion in funding. H.R. 1158 reduces the funding Texas would have received under formula allocations by half a million dollars. This measure cuts over \$162 million from housing modernization, operating subsidies, and section 8 vouchers funding for my State. Texas will lose \$20 million from Community Development Block Grants, \$30 million from the low-income home energy assistance program, and over \$170 million in job training and employment services programs. Texas children will lose over \$70 million in school programs.

Two cuts contained in this package will have a disparaging impact on residents of dilapidated, low-income housing. The reduction in payments for the operation of low-income housing projects and the elimination of funding for the Severely Distressed Public Housing Fund will result in a reduction of affordable housing for the residents of my district, where public housing is already at maximum capacity and 5000 families are on a waiting list for affordable housing. This cut will result in a loss of over 200 jobs in a region with unemployment over 9 percent.

The reduction in the payments for the operation of low-income housing projects will fall disproportionately on housing authorities. These housing authorities, which begin their fiscal year July 1 or October 1, could see their funding cut by as much as 50 percent. This reduction will mean a reduction in maintenance, security, and supportive services.

The Severely Distressed Public Housing fund is targeted to help those who live in some of our nation's most dilapidated and crime infested developments. The President had intended this last year of funding to assist communities with the worst public housing. This money is urgently needed. In many instances this money has already been obligated and contracts have been signed. Not funding this program in 1996 is one thing, renegeing on our commitments for 1995 is another. This will result in long and costly litigation over the cancellation of this commitment.

Under this measure, funding for three national parks in Texas will lose funding. The Chamizal National Memorial, Palo Alto National Battlefield, and the San Antonio Missions will lose funding. These parks preserve our unique multicultural heritage. Although, less known than the Yellowstone National Park or the Grand Canyon, they are no less important and serve to commemorate and preserve an unique part of our history, culture, or landscape. Under this proposal, programs to promote this aspect of our heritage will continue to be underfunded and neglected.

I provided the Rules Committee an opportunity to make in order an amendment to